

and on the basis that at least 20% of the hydroxy analog of methionine is assumed to be available for absorption by the ruminant.--

--13. The ruminant feed ration of claim 12 wherein the hydroxy analog of methionine is 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid.--

--14. The ruminant feed ration of claim 12 wherein at least 40% of the hydroxy analog of methionine is assumed to be available for absorption by the ruminant.--

--15. The ruminant feed ration of claim 12 wherein the hydroxy analog of methionine is 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid and that at least 40% of the hydroxy analog of methionine is assumed to be available for absorption by the ruminant.--

Al --16. The ruminant feed ration of claim 12 wherein the hydroxy analog of methionine is 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid and that about 40% to about 55% of the hydroxy analog of methionine is assumed to be available for absorption by the ruminant.--

--17. The ruminant feed ration in any of claims 12-16 wherein the ruminant feed ration does not comprise a bypass fat.--

Sub B2 --18. The ruminant feed ration of claim 12 wherein the amount of the hydroxy analog of methionine is determined by a nutritional model wherein the nutritional model is a computer program selected from the group consisting of Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS) and University of Pennsylvania DAIRYLP.

--19. A ruminant feed ration which increases the milk production of a ruminant, the ration comprising: